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MORE THRILLS IN STORE IN SYDNEY PLAY-OFFS

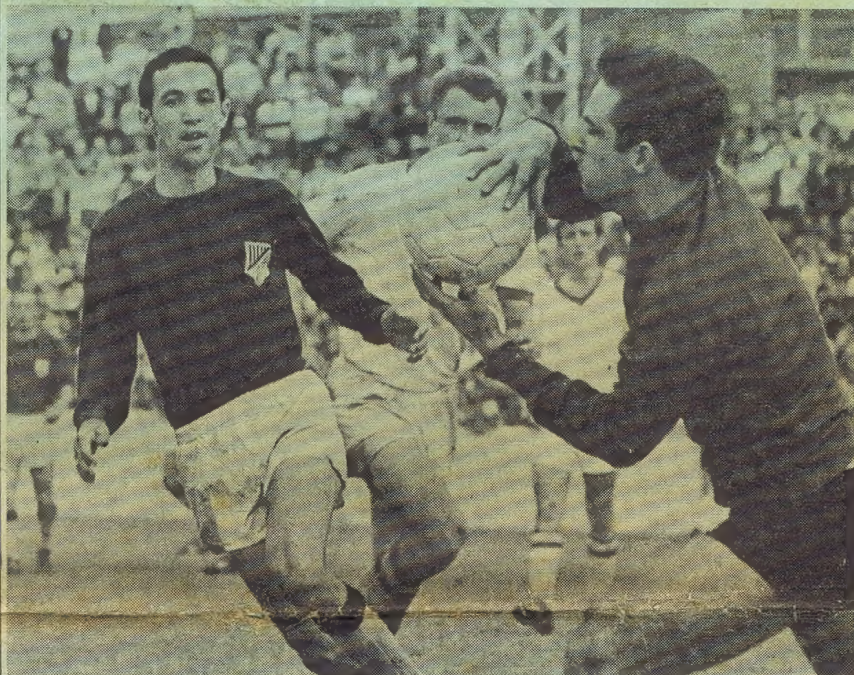
Perfect weather, a 17,000 strong crowd and two close, exciting matches spelt the start for Sydney's post-championship round-robin.

In the first game APIA staged a grand come-back after being down 0-3 to force a 4-4 draw.

In the second match two under-strength teams, Pan Hellenic and Hakoah put on a thriller with Pan Hellenic deservedly winning 1-0.

Hakoah's defeat has placed them in a precarious position; they cannot afford another loss in their remaining two games if they want to reach the Grand Final.

Next Sunday's second round, given good weather, should draw close to 20,000 spectators, at least half of them wildly enthusiastic Pan Hellenic supporters.



ABOVE: Prague goalie King gets his fingertips to the ball under the watchful eye of team-mate Zeman while APIA's dark jerseyed Wentzel strikes a resigned pose. BOTTOM LEFT: Allan Marnoch of Hakoah makes good use of his broad back to repulse Pan Hellenic winger Logan and Yaager is ready to lend a helping hand.



Melbourne Cup will start on Saturday

Melbourne's traditional Dockerty Cup proper swings into action this weekend with the 12 State League teams and four qualifiers from the minor leagues.

Double-headers will be played both Saturdays and Sundays at Olympic and Middle Parks.

This is the full weekend's program:

Olympic Park — Saturday: Polonia v. Dandenong (1 p.m.), Croatia v. Coburg (3 p.m.).

Middle Park — Saturday: Wilhelmina v. Alex-

ander (1 p.m.), Hakoah v. JUST (3 p.m.).

Middle Park — Sunday: Lions v. Hamlyn Rangers or Austria (1 p.m.), SM-Hellas v. Slavia (3 p.m.).

Olympic Park — Sunday: Juventus v. Sunshine (1.30 p.m.), George Cross v. Melbourne-HSC (3.15 p.m.).

(Full reviews on page 7).

The competition, which ended last week, saw one of the big State League drawcards, Alexander, relegated to First Division.

The Greek-sponsored team which has been unlucky in its last few games threw away a gilt-edged chance of escaping the hatchet with an incredible miss almost on fulltime against Lions.

The 1-1 draw was not good enough to match JUST's record, who also registered 1-1 against Polonia, but managed to retain their State League status on a slightly better goal-average.

Croatia ran Juventus into the ground, stretching their winning lead to seven points over Polonia — the biggest margin in State League history.

Melbourne-HSC, the 1967 title holders, and Juventus, runners-up, are both out of the 1969 Ampol Cup.

— Bob Low

Mexican meeting will be decisive

One way or another, Australia's World Cup commitments will be definitely decided at the Mexico Congress next month.

This much is clear from an item in the latest FIFA Bulletin.

This says: "At the meeting, those present will have to agree to a solution."

"In addition to the system fixed by the Organising Committee, FIFA will pre-

pare one or two variations to be discussed at the meeting where one has to be adopted."

The recent decision of the Australian Government to bar all Rhodesians from entering this country shouldn't make any difference as the ASF has never entertained the idea of staging the whole World Cup elimination group tournament here.

WITH THE AMATEURS

ARTARMON WILL APPLY FOR SENIOR STATUS

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Artarmon, the 1968 Inter-Suburban First Division premiers, will definitely apply for membership of the Federation Second Division.

Club secretary Bill Orr said that approaches had been made to the local council for further improvements to Artarmon Reserve.

One of the two playing pitches is practically fenced off now, and the club wishes to have the job completed. The ground is well located, and has an excellent playing surface.

Artarmon defeated Chelsea 4-1 in their NSW Amateur Cup semifinal last Sunday, which takes them on to a semifinal encounter with Marrickville.

The club under-18 team defeated Allambie, and became the winner of the North and South Harbour competitions conducted by the Sydney Metropolitan Association.

Four of Artarmon's seven competition sides had competition wins.

Marrickville's title

Marrickville defeated Wentworthville 1-0 at Bankstown Soccer Centre 1-0, and became the 1968 First Division champions.

The game was played in terrific spirit and although the goal by Peter Wax was the only one to separate the teams, Marrickville had a penalty which was taken and re-taken without score thanks to good saves by Wentworthville keeper Thomas.

Had Wentworthville won the premiership they would have applied for Second Division Federation, but the narrowest of losses towards the end of the season left them without the opportunity of doing so.

On Sunday at Bellambi, Marrickville won their NSW Amateur Cup quarter final 2-1.

Ron Horan and Peter Wax scored for the winners.

Second Division draw

Enmore and Guildford were locked at 2-2 at the Marks Field on Saturday in the Second Division championship final.

Enmore scored after 10 minutes, running Guildford into the ground for the entire first half.

Guildford were back in the game in the second half, when Enmore was unlucky enough to lose their defensive sheet-anchor, Vlahos, with a twisted ankle.

In extra-time a shot by Guildford's Graham Hahn was deflected into Enmore's goal to give Guildford the lead, but a further score before fulltime leaves the teams ready to battle it out again this week.

All Stars win

In the Third Division semifinal replay, Granville All Stars had the better of their encounter with the premiers, Loftus Rovers, and won 2-0.

Newtown Progressive, six points behind Campbelltown and Liverpool in the Fourth Division premiership, won the championship final against Beverly Hills by a clear 2-0 margin at the Marks Field before a good crowd.

After goals early in each half by Newtown, Beverly Hills fought back gamely, but the result was never in doubt.

A special word for Peter Colargui, outside left for the vanquished, who put everything into the effort to pull the game out of the fire.

Apart for some upsets due to withdrawals from the Third Division, the Inter-Suburban Leagues had a remarkably good season, and all competitions were packed with interest.

Much of this success is due to the interest in the competitions show by State Federation secretary Aulden Brown, who invariably gives close personal attention to the smooth flow of the League's affairs.

LAST WEEK

FIRST DIVISION
Marrickville v. Wentworthville 1-0 (Grade II), Belmore v. Marrickville 3-0 (Grade II).

SECOND DIVISION
Belmore v. Guildford 2-2 (Grade II), Warringah v. Arncliffe 0-0 (Grade II).

THIRD DIVISION
All Stars v. Rovers 2-0 (semi replay).

FOURTH DIVISION
Ku-ring-gai v. Campbelltown 3-2 (Grade II), Newtown v. Beverly Hills 2-0.

THIS WEEKEND

Third Division Finals: Revesby Workers v. Greenacre (Second Grade) at 1.15 p.m. and Condell Park v. Granville All Stars (First Grade) at 3 p.m. at the Bankstown Soccer Centre on Saturday.

N.Z. TOUR TRIUMPH

The Amateur Association-sponsored under-16 NSW team had an all-conquering, triumphant tour of New Zealand's south island, winning all of their eight matches.

The tourists scored 31 goals and conceded nine and created a tremendous impression in every centre they visited.

Their fabulous record reads:

● v. Canterbury 2-1 (scorers Stewart, Winchester).

● v. Marlborough 1-0 (Woods).

● v. Nelson 2-0 (Wheaton, Masters).

● v. President's XI 6-2 (Winchester 2, Leary, Howell 2, Jennings).

● v. Southland 7-1 (Tapp 3, Wheaton, Edmunds, Holmes 2).

● v. Otago 3-1 (Tapp 2, Holmes).

● v. South Canterbury 6-2 (Winchester 2, Leary, Masters, Bradford, Edmunds).

● v. South Island 4-2 (Winchester 2, Tapp 2).

The following lads, coached by Laurie Hegyes and managed by Dave Childs and Bruce Pleasant, made the tour: Hickson, Hoshowski, Jennings, Cook, Knauz, Bradford, Edmunds, Woods, Wheaton, Tapp, Howell, Holmes, Stewart, Leary, White, Masters.

● Watch next week's paper for a full report on the tour by Dave Childs, also a summary of the South Australian CHS team's Sydney visit.

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

There is a good chance that at least Sydney and Melbourne fans will see the full French national team next year. They will visit New Caledonia and on the way could stop for two games in Australia. France were in the last 16 at the 1966 World Cup and boast such outstanding players as Herbin, Gondet, Di Nallo and Bosquier.

Bankstown halfback, CLIFF McDERMOTT, who has just recovered from a broken leg, gets married on Saturday after the Second Division round-robin match to Miss Annelise Danzuk.

Don't be surprised if top referee, HAROLD PARSONS, retires from big-time matches at the end of the season. Parsons is expected to get the plum Grand Final appointment as recognition for his services to the game during a splendid career as one of Australia's very best referees.

St. George's talented young goalkeeper, BILL BALL, suffered a serious injury last Sunday in the third grade match against South Coast. After a diving save, Ball got a kick in his chest, which broke one of his ribs, that punctured his lung, requiring immediate hospitalisation.

Hakoah's Scottish speedsters, HARRY and WILLIE RUTHERFORD, have already settled into new jobs. Willie, single, is a butcher and Harry started work as a storeman's clerk this week. Harry's wife and two children — the youngest, a boy born only six days before his departure for Australia — will join him in about eight weeks.

Ku-ring-gai District Association president, DON ALLEN, stated this week that junior clubs from Hornsby north to Hawkesbury River had indicated their preference to continue with Ku-ring-gai. These Hornsby Shire clubs had joined Ku-ring-gai clubs to form the Ku-ring-gai district, while other Hornsby

Shire clubs formed from south of Hornsby had joined with Ryde Municipality clubs to build the Gladesville-Hornsby district.



Melita Eagles' inside-forward, DAVE GOLDIE, is off for a trip to England later this month. He will be back sometime in December.

EASTSIDE MTK will play their last fixtures on Sunday, when they travel to Lithgow to clash with two representative sides picked from the clubs in the Lithgow District Senior Soccer Association. The matches will be held at the Old Showgrounds at 1.15 and 3 p.m. MTK's players and supporters will be provided with transport in a hired bus that will depart from the corner of Hall Street and Campbell Parade, Bondi Beach, at 8.15 a.m. sharp.

What must soccer do to get the space it deserves in some of our morning newspapers? Don't you think it's a bit thick that last Tuesday, 48 hours after the final round-robin double-header had attracted 17,000 spectators there wasn't a line about soccer in "The Australian" while the "Herald" condescendingly gave us one inch about South Coast's new coach? And to add insult to injury, both papers had plenty of space to devote to Rugby Union, that wonderfully popular game which had a measly 5,500 spectators at their semifinal last weekend! And while on the subject of the Press, how come they all talk big about the necessity of "giving kids a go", yet not one newspaper gave the recent junior tours of New Caledonia and New Zealand any decent publicity?

As we forecast two weeks ago, South Coast have appointed TOMMY ANDERSON as coach for 1969. A wise move, though it would have been better for both parties to have signed at least a two-year agreement instead

Foot-tennis

None of the five matches in St. George-Budapest's \$300 foot-tennis competition were played last Monday and the following teams won on a forfeit: Bijkerk-Bosklopper, Watkiss-Yaeger, Morgan-Adams, Lang-Vasvary and Clarke-Hardy.

Next Monday's draw: Venglos-Scheinflug v. Barboutis-Frakes; Smith-Apostolidis v. Sangiovanni-Pueblas; Marnech-Fuzes v. Cliss-Hillary; Barnett-Holden v. Tamand-Sagi; Walsh-Jones v. a Pan Hellenic team.

of a short term one-year contract. If Anderson is to fully implement the bold, imaginative policies he unveiled when he took over from Jim Kelly in the last two competition matches he'll need more than a year. It's not a coincidence that Prague are only now reaping the benefits of Joe Venglos' coaching, and that of Cambal before him.

Congratulations to Western Suburbs and Gladesville Ravens, who won their under-21 interclub finals conducted by the Sydney METROPOLITAN Association. Westerns defeated Greenwich 1-0, and Gladesville defeated Rydalmere 1-0.

Forty three matches will be contested on Sunday in round III of the "CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS" series conducted by the Sydney Amateurs. Matches are played by First Division winners from all Associations in grades from under-8 to under-18 and "A" grade. Grounds in use this week are Allum Reserve Greenacre, Bay Street Brighton, George Green North Bankstown, Jamieson Park Penrith, King George Park Rozelle, Macarthur Park Granville, Mackey Park Temple, and Marconi Oval Bosley Park.

Hakoah's "LOANS" to Second Division clubs this season — McKnight (Auburn), Coutts (Lane Cove) and Peter Woods (Bankstown) — will revert to the club at the end of the season.

Yugal are likely to take part in the annual tournament held in BROKEN HILL at the end of the month. Sutherland have also been invited with three teams from Adelaide. The tournament has been staged for many years and is one of Broken Hill's major events.

Hakoah's ANNUAL BALL will be held at the Chevron Hotel, on Saturday, October 19, under the patronage of the Deputy-Leader of the Opposition in the State Parliament, S.D. Einfeld, M.L.A.

TOMMY SNEDDEN, Croatia's former halfback, had an excellent season with Western Workers' Magpies in the Newcastle First Division. Despite his sterling semifinal display, Western just missed out making the Northern final. Another star was BOBBY BURGOYNE, one time Sydney star, who netted 22 goals in the premiership to put Belmont-Swansea in the semifinals.

Newcastle's main matches this year are being shared between Adamstown Oval, Macquarie Field, Speers Point, and Crystal Palace, Wallsend, where the big game will be played this weekend. With Wallsend only running seventh on the table, the Wallsend ground has not been well patronised this year. JOHNNY GALAMBOS was brought into Wallsend's line-up when relegation was a possibility, and scored six goals, second to Bruce Morrow on 10 goals.

Prague are expecting a 25-year-old forward from Bratislava, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, to join them soon. A Second Division player, he is now in Vienna after fleeing from the Russian occupation.

Leading amateur club BELMORE won the Second Grade of the Inter-Suburban League First Division last Saturday. It was the club's third success in the last four competitions contested. They were successful in both grades last year. Members of this season's winning squad are: D. Brooker, D. Caygill, R. Hawthorne, E. Pearce, T. Graham, M. Turner, L. Hampton, G. Healey, R. Brown, T. Liddell, E. Horne, R. Wardman, G. Warnken, Ron Hawthorne, A. Northcott, G. Brian, K. Loty, F. Mackechnie, W. McMullan, J. Keleher, R. Moynihan, G. Gilbert, R. Abercrombie, L. Farrin.

State AMATEUR Championship matches, played at Memorial Park, Corrimal, last Sunday resulted in: Under-9: Sutherland 3 d. Illawarra 0. Under-11: Sutherland 2 d. Illawarra 0. Under-13: Granville 8 d. Gunnedah 0. Under-15: Gladesville-Hornsby 1, Illawarra 1. All Age: Tamworth 4 d. Western Suburbs 1.

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Manchester teams suffer early slump

— From LESLIE PAGE in London —

Strange, I know, but, nevertheless true when it comes to explaining why England's new soccer Knight, Sir Matt Busby, has worries he just does not deserve.

And yet this is football. As September dawned and Manchester United prepared to travel to South America to face Estudiantes for the World Club championship first-leg on September 25, the great United, feted as the European Champs, looked less than their usual selves.

Manchester United have started many League campaigns in the past without displaying the best of their talents.

This time the critics noted cracks in the side and a positive lack of confidence, coupled with player injuries and loss of form.

BRAVADO

Certainly, it was far too early to drive one into a mental institution with a lack of success complex, but the jaunty air adopted by so many a few months ago began to look like bravado.

John Aston, such a success at Wembley against Benfica, is on the injured list; Denis Law played one senior match and was, once more, laid low with knee trouble and Bill Foulkes, who returned at the end of last season to cover himself with glory, has handed over the No. 5 shirt to David Sadler with Busby knowing that Foulkes must come to the end of his senior career very shortly.

Frank Kopel, one match

last term, is being "blooded" in defence and neither Bobby Charlton nor George Best, have been able to apply their usual magical charms.

BIG TRANSFER

When the "new", sharp, Dave Sexton-inspired, Chelsea slammed United at Old Trafford, 4-0, it was United's biggest thumping at home since September 1962 when Burnley were the aggressors.

Burnley, in fact, may have come to United's rescue.

Willie Morgan, who did not miss one of Burnley's League matches last term and hit seven goals, is now a United player, transferred for the sum of £90,000.

The wingman who toured Australia last year with Scotland, had been seeking better terms than those offered by Burnley for some weeks and asked for a move setting the pockets of the rich clubs well alight with gold they have available.

Burnley may stagger along these days in Division One without achieving notoriety or even much spectator support (average attendance last season was the lowest in Division One at 17,000), but in the last five years have paid into their bank account £400,000 from player sales and spent less than a quarter of that

sum in bringing talent to Turf Moor.

Manchester City, the League Champs, were another outfit worried by a poor start, especially with their first entry into the European Cup starting on September 18 against Fenerbahce of Turkey.

The Joe Mercer-Malcolm Allison combination was failing to click as it did three months ago and sadly missing was injured captain and full-back, Tony Book, an ever-present last term.

Tragedy came to Nottingham Forest during their match with Leeds United.

A fire which started in the players' dressing rooms, spread to the rest of the main stand — rebuilt four years ago — burning it to the ground.

FIRE!

The match was abandoned as fire services did their best to contain the blaze and spectators trooped in an orderly fashion from the ground.

The players needed to borrow clothes before they walked through the streets as all the kit was destroyed, together with valuable personal property.

Fourth Division Notts County offered their Meadow Lane ground to Forest as a temporary home until the debris can be cleared.

The Football League have also offered help, but the club know the main task is to rebuild as a matter of urgency.

On the Saturday of the event, Coventry City reopened their stand which was wrecked by a fire eight months ago.

The injury hoodoo which bugged Queen's Park Rangers last season as they climbed from Division Two, has struck again in their first Division One term.

MANY CASUALTIES

Rodney Marsh, who broke his left foot in training in July 1967 and did not play with the seniors until November and yet finished as the club's leading scorer with 14 goals, has again injured his foot and will be out, at least, until mid-October.

Rangers were forced to step into the market place and slapped out £45,000 for Barry Bridges, who has played the last two seasons with Birmingham since leaving Chelsea.

Bridges wished to return to a Southern side since he runs a hotel in Eastbourne and now needs to spend more time close to his business.

Bridges, filling the centre-forward spot, hit the net in his initial Rangers outing.

Other senior casualties include George Cohen, forced into yet another cartilage operation following the first in January.

Fulham could have done with him; England also.

Ray Wilson, Everton and England World Cup full-back along with Cohen, also is hospitalised with a knee operation.

Nottingham Forest 'keeper, Peter Crummitt, in only his second match since breaking his arm against Leeds United last February, fractured his left thumb and cannot expect a return until nearly November.

Gordon Banks, Stoke City and England, has broken the little finger of his right hand, but might be in action by late September.

Smalltalk

Our soccer is riddled with cliches which keep cropping up year after tedious year with almost mechanical regularity.

One of these is the expression of "shotgun" wedding, implying forced amalgamation between clubs and invariably dug up about this time of the year, when some clubs want to rectify, by administrative means, their failure to avoid relegation or to achieve promotion.

Despite the many Federation threats and directives over the years, our "shotgun" record is — nil. Not once did any amalgamation occur as a result of Federation directives. Sydney Austral were taken over by Western Suburbs while Gladsville and Auburn merged peacefully into Cumberland only to end up in divorce court and Auburn again regaining its bachelor status. So what's all the fuss about?

Another popular silly-season standby for some Federation officials and the more credulous and more recently arrived members of the soccer press corps is the periodically expressed "concern" that this or that club is in financial difficulties and, as such, should be "screened out" from First Division.

If financial stress was any criterion for such draconic measures, some State Federations, for example, should be promptly disbanded.

But that's not the point I'm trying to make. How an English soccer writer now living in our midst and supposedly familiar with the world scene can applaud such puerile attempts is beyond me.

Where else in the world can even the possibility arise of a club being kicked out from a First Division just because they are in debt? With the exception of about a dozen clubs, all 92 English League clubs are usually in the red. In Italy the ratio is even worse: only Inter Milan, AC Milan, and perhaps one or two others are solvent. Or how about West Germany's famed Bundesliga where, according to the latest figures, 90 per cent. of the clubs lost money in the 1967-68 season?

But has it ever been seriously suggested that Arsenal, AS Roma or Eintracht Frankfurt should be relegated or disbanded because they have debts?

Why the hell must Australian officials try to be so damned pompous and righteous?

The recent Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia had one interesting byproduct: none of the Western nations want to play soccer matches against teams from countries that helped the Soviet to accomplish this noble feat: Poland, East Germany, Hungary and Bulgaria.

This embargo may last for a few months at least and, among other things, forced the UEFA to alter the draws of the various European Cups. They not only made sure that Western teams will avoid "occupation" sides in the first round — but also took the extra precaution of drawing the Czech teams against teams from "friendly" East bloc nations — Yugoslavia and Rumania.

All this has prompted some people to say that sport and politics shouldn't mix, that the whole affair is silly, will blow over soon, that the Poles and others are themselves victims, etc.

To some extent, all this may be true. Yet somehow one feels that the boycott was totally justified and may even be effective. But beyond that, that was one of the very few avenues left open to people in the West to show the Soviet regime how strongly they disapproved of their action.

Joe Vlasits is leaving Melita, Julius Polgar will quit St. George, Denes Adrigan will part with Manly — these are certain.

But, according to rumors, at least two, possibly three of the present semifinalists will also have a change of coaches soon. And not all by their own volition.

Which is rather surprising, you may say. After all, how can a club be dissatisfied with their results — and coach — after a season when they fared remarkably well, probably better than their strength would warrant?

The two fairly divided sections in the Western Suburbs camp may produce a lively, if not stormy, meeting soon. We hear that some leading lights in the club are not entirely happy with the way Wests have been shaping.

Joe Marston's position seems secure, as his contract has two more years to run. On the other hand, Marston himself is the target of much of the criticism within the club.

So — which way will the cat jump?

An enterprising crook somewhere in Rio has been jailed after cops had nailed him down with the terrible charge: he has been selling at \$50 and more, jerseys of such immortals as Pele and Gilmar.

The only hitch in his otherwise perfect set-up was, according to police, that he made the jerseys himself, by the hundreds, and none of them has ever seen the back of the stars.

Still, I couldn't help being impressed. If people in impoverished Brazil can fork out \$50 for a Pele shirt — even if it's not genuine — their soccer future looks assured.

Can you imagine anyone in Sydney offering even a dollar for a shirt worn by ANY of our own players?

The row over the identity of the ASF delegates to the Mexican FIFA Congress next month looks like developing into a first class spectacle.

Let's sincerely hope that secretary Ian McAndrew can manage to stay out of the dogfight; we had a similar episode in 1964, before the Tokyo Congress. Soon after, secretary Bob Clark was replaced.

— MIKE RENWICK

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SPECIAL REPORT:

HELLENIC HELPED TO BRING BACK CROWDS

There was a spectacular and totally unexpected increase in attendances at Sydney First Division championship matches this year.

Competition crowds were up a whopping 35 per cent. on last year, something not even the boldest visionary would have dared to envisage in view of the meagre Ampol Cup attendances.

Yet the figures are here to prove that 403,649 spectators watched the First Division championship as against only 298,000 in 1967.

The average weekly attendance per round jumped dramatically from 13,545 last year to 18,347 spectators — almost on a par with the boom season of 1962, though not quite up to the record 1963 and 1964 levels.

Many reasons contributed to the big crowd increase, none more so than Pan Hellenic's great season and the presence of former Greek international, Takis Loukanidis, in the last nine championship rounds.

Pan Hellenic, who attracted 156,124 spectators to their matches (an average of 7,096 per game), meant the difference between a fair increase on last year and the huge upsurge which took place in 1968.

They not only swelled the total attendances week after week, especially after Loukanidis joined them, but, more importantly, helped fill the coffers of those clubs fortunate enough to entertain them at home.

In all fairness, however, it must be pointed out that there had been an increase in crowds even before Loukanidis appeared on the scene.

At the half-way mark of

the championship the weekly average was already up some 25 per cent on the previous year, and it's safe to assume that without Loukanidis the total attendance for the 22 rounds would have been in the vicinity of 340,000 spectators instead of passing the 400,000 mark.

The ideal weather — every Sunday produced fine, sunny conditions, and for the first time not one match was postponed because of rain — the closeness of the competition, with APFA losing their grip on the title, and increased attendances at Woonona in the early part of the season, before the glamor of Jim Kelly's return wore off, also contributed to the spiralling attendances this year.

The 12 First Division teams attracted the following spectators at their 22 matches this year (last year's total in brackets):

Pan Hellenic:	156,124 (98,500)
APFA:	103,753 (95,000)
Hakoah:	76,941 (52,300)
Prague:	62,187 (39,600)
St. George:	58,009 (50,000)
South Coast:	57,413 (36,200)
Yugal:	54,418 (38,200)
Polonia:	52,804 (39,100)
Croatia:	50,621 (59,000)
Melita:	50,357 (44,700)
Canterbury:	43,909 (44,200)
Manly:	39,794 (Div. II)

So that there can be no doubt as to the part Pan Hellenic's huge support played in this year's large attendances, we have set down below the total crowd figures for the other First Division clubs, not taking into account

their two matches against Pan Hellenic in 1968 and 1967.

APFA:	1968	1967
Hakoah:	78,405	79,600
Prague:	54,918	43,100
South Coast:	46,557	30,850
Melita:	46,087	31,000
St. George:	43,224	36,700
Yugal:	43,006	41,100
Croatia:	41,963	31,800
Polonia:	41,708	50,400
Manly:	39,754	32,600
Canterbury:	31,501	Div. II
	30,034	32,600

In most cases these figures don't correspond with the totals in which Pan Hellenic are included.

APFA (how the mighty have fallen!), Canterbury and Croatia — who lost by far the

most support in 1968 — actually lost ground this year, while all the others, South Coast excepted, owe their spectacular overall increases to Pan Hellenic, and Pan Hellenic alone.

Pan Hellenic may not have won the battle for the points but in the crowd-appeal stakes there's no one to come anywhere near them and even APFA have been reduced to the status of an "also-ran" whose support pales in comparison.

Pan Hellenic may not feature in the record books this year, but 1968 will go down as the year they brought the crowds back to Sydney soccer — and how!

THE TWO SIDES OF THE STORY

Pan Hellenic, Yugal and, above all, Canterbury finished the season full of running.

This is revealed if you divide the 22 competition rounds into two equal halves of 11 rounds each.

After the first term Polonia were strongly in the race but later collapsed.

Canterbury came with a withering run after being relegation possibilities for the first 11 rounds.

Here is the table showing the number of points each team collected in the first and the second half of the season and their totals.

	I	II	T
HAKOAH	18	16	34
PAN HELLENIC	15	17	32
APFA	14	15	29
PRAGUE	14	13	27
CROATIA	12	13	25
POLONIA	15	8	23
SOUTH COAST	11	10	21
YUGAL	9	12	21
CANTERBURY	5	12	17
MELITA EAGLES	7	8	15
ST. GEORGE	8	6	14
MANLY	4	2	6

TEAM—MATES SHARE TOP SCORING HONOR

Goals were at a premium throughout the First Division championship as this year's Sydney goalscoring list testifies.

The goalscoring crown, for the first time, was shared, and by team-mates! The South Coast United pair of Dennis Alston and Ron McGarry, both signed from Britain this year, top the list with 12 goals.

Giacometti, Sydney's "goat" for the previous three seasons had to be content with 11 goals and equal

third place in 1968, a position he shares with Baartz, Brian Smith and Bill Edwards.

Karyannis, with 10 goals, is the only other player who reached double figures.

Hakoah's Ray Baartz was probably robbed of the symbolic crown when forced to sit out the last three games through injury, and Giacometti could have possibly finished on top for the fourth consecutive season had he made more first team appearances.

Alston and McGarry's 12 goals are the least, by far, ever needed to take out the goalscoring award.

Previous Federation top scorers were: 1957: Bruce Young (30), 1958: Len Quested (28), 1959: Leo Baumgartner (32), 1960: Herbert Ninaus (46), 1961: Les Schumann (28), 1962: Vernon Wentzel (28), 1963: Brian Tristram (32), 1964: John Watkiss (24), 1965: Johnny Giacometti (23), 1966: Johnny Giacometti (20), 1967: Johnny Giacometti (22).



DENNIS ALSTON



RON MCGARRY

The full list of championship goalscorers, including "own" goal-getters, for 1968:

12	Alston (SCU)	2	K. Jones (Hakoah)
12	Baartz (Hakoah)	2	R. Jones (Manly)
11	W. Edwards (Yugal)	2	M. Lissing (Prague)
11	Giacometti (APFA)	2	Moulson (Prague)
11	B. Smith (P. Hellenic)	2	Mullan (Melita)
11	Karyannis (P. Hellenic)	2	McKinnon (APFA)
11	Cliss (St. George)	2	Van Blerk (APFA)
11	R. Cosh (Croatia)	2	Warren (St. George)
11	Krawiarz (Polonia)	2	Wentzel (APFA)
11	G. Manuel (Prague)	2	Westwater (Pan Hellenic)
10	Reynolds (Croatia)	1	Ackerley (APFA)
10	Campbell (APFA)	1	Banicevic (Yugal)
8	Kulak (Polonia)	1	Barbours (Croatia)
8	Paxinos (Canterbury)	1	Blou (APFA)
8	Fekete (Hakoah)	1	Calphy (Polonia)
8	R. Fraser (Croatia)	1	Clarke (St. George)
8	J. Aleghich (Yugal)	1	Cole (Pan Hellenic)
7	Hood (Canterbury)	1	Duffy (Melita)
7	Watkiss (Hakoah)	1	Fekete (Hakoah)
7	Armstrong (Prague)	1	R. Fraser (Croatia)
7	Barnett (Hakoah)	1	Goldie (Melita)
6	Povey (Polonia)	1	G. Harris (St. George)
6	Spilarewicz (Hakoah)	1	Hewitt (Canterbury)
6	Waller (Manly)	1	Hillsdon (Hakoah)
6	Campara (APFA)	1	Hoggart (Prague)
6	Edmunds (Hakoah)	1	P. Hughes (APFA)
5	Giles (Croatia)	1	Jagger (Manly)
5	Halpin (Yugal)	1	Kakakios (Pan Hellenic)
5	Scheinflog (Prague)	1	J. Keddie (APFA)
5	Guerrera (Croatia)	1	Loukanidis (Pan Hellenic)
5	N. Petrou (Pan Hellenic)	1	Maloney (Manly)
5	Blitz (Pan Hellenic)	1	Martin (Croatia)
5	D. Keddie (Hakoah)	1	Minol (Polonia)
5	Lowry (Prague)	1	McCulloch (Pan Hellenic)
5	Massi (Canterbury)	1	Nutt (Manly)
5	McGrath (SCU)	1	Parker (Manly)
5	Ninaus (Canterbury)	1	Pueblas (St. George)
5	Santorio (APFA)	1	Schumann (St. George)
5	Shepherd (Croatia)	1	Rees (St. George)
5	Sheoni (APFA)	1	Robinson (Melita)
5	Smith (Melita)	1	Romanos (Canterbury)
5	Tolson (SCU)	1	Sangiovanni (St. George)
5	Urbanjak (Polonia)	1	Schaefer (Manly)
5	Woods (Croatia)	1	Stewart (Hakoah)
5	D. Yasper (Hakoah)	1	Stocks (Manly)
5	Azzopardi (Melita)	1	Strauch (SCU)
5	Beattie (SCU)	1	Stripfels (Canterbury)
5	Blackier (Prague)	1	Takac (Yugal)
5	R. Cosh (Croatia)	1	Taylor (Canterbury)
5	Galbraith (Canterbury)	1	Volat (Yugal)
5	Gault (Prague)	1	Wollowiczky (Melita)
5	Harris (Manly)	1	"Own" goals
5	Hignett (Pan Hellenic)	1	Blanco (Prague)
5	Hillhouse (Canterbury)	1	Cliss (St. George)
5		1	De Bruin (Melita)
5		1	Hignett (Pan Hellenic)
5		1	Raeburn (Canterbury)
5		1	Sambrook (APFA)
5		1	Schaefer (St. George)
5		1	Taylor (Canterbury)

Defenders shine among the stars

First place, and the Flotta Lauro cruise to New Zealand, were just rewards for Allan Marnoch who was SOCCER WORLD'S Players' Contest runner-up in 1966 and 1967.

Marnoch, who averaged 4.22 points for his 22 championship displays, succeeds Karl Jaros (1960), Jim Kelly (1961, 1963 and 1965), Angelo Mavropoulos (1962), Trevor Edwards (1964), Brian Lincoln (1966) and Allan Westwater (1967) as SOCCER WORLD'S "top star".

Our awards are based on the number of points collected by every First Division player throughout the competition proper when points ranging from one to six are attributed weekly by staff writers.

Eight players averaged four points or more in the contest, which was sponsored by Flotta Lauro this year: Marnoch 4.22, De Bruin 4.18, Reynolds 4.10, Zeman 4.05, Dzalach 4.00, Rafanelli 4.00, Schaefer 4.00 and Scheinflog 4.00.

There were only five last year: Westwater 4.38, Marnoch 4.18, Schaefer 4.14, Hughes 4.09 and Watkiss 4.00. The top three players, on averages, in each position in 1968 were:

Goalkeepers: 1 Corry (Croatia) 3.68; 2 Eaton (Melita Eagles) 3.63; 3. Fuzes (Hakoah) 3.63.

Right backs: 1 Lincoln (Croatia) 3.81; 2 Johnston

(Pan Hellenic) 3.76; 3 Van Blerk (APFA) 3.65.

Left backs: 1 Hillsdon (Hakoah) 3.65; 2 Sloan (Croatia) 3.63; 3 Hillary (St. George) 3.58.

Inside rights: 1 B. Smith (Pan Hellenic) 3.95; 2 McGarry (SCU) 3.93; 3 Campana (APFA) 3.81.

Centre forwards: 1 Scheinflog (Prague) 4.00; 2 Tolson (SCU) 3.58; 3 Cliss (St. George) 3.46.

Inside lefts: 1 Baartz (Hakoah) 3.67; 2 Giles (Croatia) 3.58; 3 Krawiarz (Polonia) 3.30.

Left wingers: 1 Blitz (Pan Hellenic) 3.48; 2 Armistage (Prague) 3.28; 3 Jones (Hakoah) 3.10.

The "team of the championship" based on average points reads: Corry; Lincoln; Hillsdon; De Bruin; Marnoch; Rafanelli; Reynolds; Smith; Scheinflog; Baartz; Blitz.

Lincoln and Marnoch filled top billing in their respective positions for the third year running and Scheinflog, Baartz and Blitz for the second consecutive season.

Blitz was also the top right winger in the 1963 championship, while Brian Smith, the leading inside-right in 1968 on averages, was top of the list also in 1963 and 1964.

Centre halves: 1 Marnoch (Hakoah) 4.22; 2 Zeman (Prague) 4.05; 3 Dzalach (Polonia) 4.00.

Left halves: 1 Rafanelli (Yugal) 4.00; 2 D. Yasper (Hakoah) 3.93; 3 Bottalico (APFA) 3.70.



C. DE BRUIN

Few dramas

A dramatic fight-back in the second half, with sensational goals overtaking the opponents' first half lead — that's what many fans dream about.

But they seldom get it. Not in Sydney, anyway.

In the whole of the 22 rounds, a total of 132 matches, only four times did a team win after being down at half time.

Hakoah, APFA, Croatia and Canterbury accomplished this once each.

Who were at the receiving end? Canterbury twice, Melita and St. George once, who lost after leading at half time.

POWERFUL APIA COULD SPELL HAKOAH'S DOOM

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Pan Hellenic could clinch their berth in the Grand Final as from this weekend, provided they beat Prague in the late match of the round-robin series on Sunday.

For Hakoah, however, the boot is on the other foot — another defeat, against APIA this time, would kill their chances of winning their fourth Grand Final.

The rejuvenated Pan Hellenic and the powerful APIA are our favorites for this weekend's thrilling double-header which will either sew up the fate of the Grand Finalists or throw the series wide open until the last round the following weekend.

Our previews:

APIA v. HAKOAH

Hakoah are destined for a quick, face-losing exit from the final play-offs unless they improve drastically this weekend.

On last Sunday's pathetic display against the depleted Pan Hellenic, they would



BOB FEKETE
(Hakoah)

be hammered by the APIA powerhouse.

APIA allied courage and stamina with all-round ability and balance to force an admirable fighting draw with Prague in a match last Sunday which showed in no uncertain fashion that these two teams are the ones to beat in the round-robin.

Despite some big defensive lapses, especially from goalie Taylor, against Prague, APIA should have little trouble in subduing Hakoah's forwards if Barnett and Co. don't shake off the shocking lethargy which characterised their woeful performance last week.

On last Sunday's form, it's no exaggeration to say that Hakoah's slender hopes for a berth in the Grand

Final rest on the robust shoulders of skipper Allan Marnoch.

One shudders about Hakoah's fate against Pan Hellenic had it not been for their stopper's herculean efforts to hold his rearguard together.

Marnoch is bound to be APIA's main stumbling block.

On the support he can muster from his team-mates depends Hakoah's fate.

A one-man show, however inspiring, will hardly suffice against the ambitious, sleek, fast-moving APIA machine.

APIA look good enough to handle anything the Hakoah we saw last week can throw at them.

Hakoah's attack, even at its best, lacks Prague's dash and method, even if Baartz returns to the side.

If Hakoah is to have any hope at all of containing APIA, it must then be in defence.

Wentzel disappointed against Prague where it was left to Blue, McKinnon and Campbell to peg back their huge deficit.

An improved showing by the Rhodesian — which is likely — would add to Hakoah's already almost unsurmountable problems.

Anyway you look at it, Hakoah's prospects are dim.



ROY BLITZ
(Pan Hellenic)

again last weekend, Pan Hellenic would be well advised to take the field in a similar frame of mind.

Another fighting display by Loukanidis, Westwater, Cole and McCulloch — the formidable axis on which Pan Hellenic built their

victory against Hakoah — would go a long way towards inflicting a similar fate on Prague.

Prague frittered away two certain points when they lost Blanco last week.

It is essential for their fluency that the brilliant Argentinian grafter resumes this weekend.

Prague look the more promising of the two teams, but if Pan Hellenic are spitting fire again they could pull it off.

We don't expect an orgy of goals as in the APIA-Prague match last weekend. Perhaps just the odd goal, as in last Sunday's late game, may clinch it, and extra-time might also be required.

This could easily end in a draw, but we have a hunch Pan Hellenic's morale will have received such a lift from last week's shock win that they may well clinch their first-ever Grand Final berth.

PROBABLE TEAMS

APIA v. HAKOAH

TAYLOR	1. FUZES
VAN BLERK	2. STEWART
ACKERLEY	3. HILLSDON
HUGHES	4. GARDINER
SAMBROOK	5. MARNOCH
BOTTALICO	6. YAAGER
MC KINNON	7. BARNETT
BLUE	8. FEKETE
WENTZEL	9. WATKISS
CAMPBELL	10. BAARTZ
GIACOMETTI	11. JONES

Referee: H. PARSONS.

PAN HELLENIC v. PRAGUE

CLARKE	1. KING
OMEROS	2. HARCOMBE
HIGNETT	3. TRACEY
MC CULLOCH	4. BLACKER
COLE	5. ZEMAN
WESTWATER	6. HOGGART
SMITH	7. GAUTO
BLITZ	8. G. MANUEL
LOUKANIDIS	9. SCHEINFLUG
PETROU	10. WILCOX
KARYANNIS	11. ARMYTAGE

Referee: A. BOSKOVIC.

Hakoah truly humbled by Hellenic's great spirit

— By PAUL DEAN —

PRAGUE v. APIA 4-4 (3-3, 3-1)

PAN HELLENIC v. HAKOAH 1-0 (1-0)

PAN HELLENIC v. PRAGUE

Having gained ever so sweet revenge for the loss of the championship, Pan Hellenic could wrap up their berth in the Grand Final this weekend with another win.

However tall an order it may be to beat Prague on their current form, this is not beyond the courageous, gallant Pan Hellenic who forced our admiration last Sunday.

Pan Hellenic's skeleton crew, minus key forwards Smith and Karyannis, and the injured Johnston after 30 minutes, created an outsize upset by deservedly beating Hakoah.

Pan Hellenic's victory — their first-ever in a play-off series — again proved the well worn theory that eleven barbers can pull it off even in the face of tremendous odds.

Though the cards were stacked against the reserve-ridden Pan Hellenic, their determination, unselfish play and do-or-die spirit paved the way for the sensational victory they failed to achieve in the championship with a full team.

Against Prague, whose delightful, method soccer thrilled the vast crowd

All lingering doubts about the tremendous value of Blanco to Prague were cleared away last Sunday when the slim, pale Argentinian set his team on the way to a shock and apparently sizeable victory over APIA.

After 35 minutes Prague were leading 3-0, largely due to the impeccable midfield control and distribution of Blanco and Scheinflug.

Under their tutelage, Gauto and Hoggart grew wings and ran rines around the totally bewildered APIA defence.

In fact, it looked like a painfully one-sided affair — until half time, that is.

When Blanco failed to reappear on the field because of an ankle injury, one sensed that Prague would struggle to maintain their rhythm and superiority.

And this is precisely what did happen. Reshuffled and without their chief prompter, the smooth, at times spectacular Prague machine broke down.

Scheinflug alone was unable to continue his midfield roaming with any degree of success while the many youngsters in the team must have felt the same hopelessness as the citizens of Prague when Dubeck was snatched and spirited away from their midst.

APIA, never slow in exploiting any weakness in an opponent's armor, put on their most aggressive mask — and proceeded to hammer away at the Prague goal.

Blue, a replacement for Campana at half time, added zip to the APIA attack and quickly masterminded APIA's vital second goal that pulled them back into the match.

From then on it was one relentless APIA onslaught and with Prague tiring, the writing was on the wall.

In extra time Prague scored a surprising fourth goal to hit the front once more but McKinnon's quick-riposte equaliser brushed this aside and from there to the very end the question was only

How quickly the mighty have fallen... Hakoah, the newly crowned champions, played like tired old-age pensioners and very deservedly lost what may eventually prove to be a decisive match.

Admittedly they were without Baartz and Edmunds — but Pan Hellenic were also missing Brian Smith and Karyannis, so that was more than evened out.

Hakoah started the game with a very critical tactical mistake, using the slow, cumbersome Stewart at inside forward, the reliable winghalf Gardiner at fullback and Fekete at winghalf.

After some 30 minutes or so they were switched back into their orthodox positions — but by then the rhythm of the team was well and truly broken.

But it wasn't only that. Watkiss, this unique match-winner, had an off-day and allowed himself to be blotted out by Cole.

With that the Hakoah attack suffered a crippling blow as neither the speedy but soft Jones, nor the busy Spilarewicz or the out of touch Barnett could act independently enough to pierce the Hellenic defence.

All in all, Hakoah played well below their best — even their second best and this couldn't be enough against a highly combative, quick-tackling Pan Hellenic.

In the Greek side the Loukanidis-Westwater tandem worked almost to perfection

for the first time — and that swung the match in their favor.

Their defence, even after the early injury of Johnston, was always steady and safe, easily coping with whatever little Hakoah cared to dish out.

Blitz, at various spots of the attack, was at his very best again — this was a reincarnated Blitz back to his Prague heyday, playing havoc with the star-studded Hakoah defence.

Above everything else, it was Pan Hellenic's superior spirit that won them the match.

Neither Petrou nor Logan or Kakakios could be fairly described as match-winners — yet even these tried, never giving an inch or a moment's rest to their opponents.

The game itself was not as spectacular as the first though it had plenty of goal-mouth action to cause many a stir.

Had the fantastic shot of Loukanidis from a good 34 yards gone in instead of hitting the woodwork, it would have been the goal of the season.

In Pan Hellenic Cole, Hignett, McCulloch, Westwater, Loukanidis and Blitz all played at their peak but even the others stood their ground well.

In Hakoah only Fekete, Marnoch and Yaager lived up to their reputations.

Details:
Pan Hellenic: Clarke; Johnston (Omeros), Cole, Hignett; McCulloch, Loukanidis, Westwater; Logan, Blitz, Petrou, Kakakios.

Hakoah: Fuzes; Gardiner, Marnoch, Hillsdon; Fekete, Yaager; Barnett, Stewart, Watkiss, Spilarewicz, Jones.

Goal: Petrou 34 min.

Referee: H. Parsons.
Crowd: 17,000 (double-header).

ROUND-ROBIN COMP. TABLE

Pan Hellenic	1	—	1	0	2	
APIA	—	1	—	4	1	
Prague	—	1	—	4	1	
Hakoah	—	—	1	0	1	0

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	Hakoah	Pan Hellenic	APIA	Prague
Hakoah	●	0-1	15-9	22-9
Pan Hellenic	1-0	●	22-9	15-9
APIA	15-9	22-9	●	4-4
Prague	22-9	15-9	4-4	●



ROUND THE WORLD

Morocco out — Ghana in

Morocco have now withdrawn officially from the Olympic Games. The Moroccan FA pulled out because FIFA refused to alter the preliminary draw which pitted Morocco against Israel, a country with which they have no diplomatic relations. FIFA have substituted Ghana in Morocco's place. Ghana were only beaten narrowly by Morocco in one of the African pre-olympic play-offs. Ghana will be in the same group as Hungary, San Salvador and Israel in Mexico.

Busby signs Willie Morgan

Willie Morgan, Burnley's 24-year-old Scottish winger, has signed for Manchester United. The transfer fee was \$208,000. Morgan was a member of the Scottish squad that toured Australia in 1967. He will take the place of Aston, who broke a leg recently, in Matt Busby's line-up.

Yugoslavia's South American tour

The Yugoslav national team will play in South America in December. Their program will be an arduous one as they'll play five times in 12 days. Yugoslavia meet Argentina on December 14, Brazil on the 17th, Peru on the 22nd, Colombia on Christmas eve and Mexico on Boxing Day.

"Panther" is O.K.

Eusebio is again in top form, having completely recovered from his recent cartilage operation. Recently Benfica beat the crack Estudiantes de La Plata 3-1 — and all the Portuguese goals were scored by the great Eusebio.

Osgood is good

Chelsea star Peter Osgood is in top form and is hotly tipped to make Alf Ramsey's England squad soon. The tall forward made a good comeback after a 1967 fracture and his partnership with Charlie Cook is the "Pensioners'" main hope for 1968.

Eastern glasshouse...

In a most self-righteous manner, the Polish, Bulgarian and Hungarian Associations protested to UEFA about the re-drawing of the European Cup tournaments. In the best traditions of marxist double-think, they vehemently protested against "discrimination." However, neither the Warsaw nor the Budapest newspapers bothered to tell their readers why UEFA changed the draws.



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Santos (with Pele) \$20,000, Real Madrid \$20,000, Benfica \$20,000, Milan AC \$15,000, Manchester United \$12,000, Inter Milan \$10,000 — these are the official match fees some of the world's leading clubs are demanding, and getting. Celtic, the 1966-67 European champions are still only guaranteed a relatively modest \$8,000, per match.

Two of West Germany's largest football weeklies, "Kicker" and "Sport Magazin" now belong to the same Nurnberg publishing house, Olympia Verlag.

Hong Kong cancelled their proposed stop-over in Phnom-Penh after the Merdeka Tournament because the Cambodian FA failed to pay for the visitors' air tickets in advance as agreed.

Tunisia's new national team coach is the Yugoslav Radojic. There are now seven Yugoslav coaches operating in the country.

Benfica and Santos played a 1-1 draw in New York last week in front of a near-record crowd of 37,000 spectators. Gate-takings were \$108,000 as the cheapest tickets sold at \$2.00.

The return leg of the Fair Cities' Cup final between Leeds and Ferencvaros of Hungary will be played as scheduled this week despite the events in Czechoslovakia which disrupted sporting relations throughout Europe.

The draw of the 1968-69 Fair Cities' Cup was not altered. This competition is not organised by the UEFA, but by a select committee, headed by FIFA president, Sir Stanley Rous, who did not feel that the Czechoslovakian crisis warranted a reshuffle.

The Mexican Olympic team, one of the favorites for the gold medal next month, beat the full Chilean national team in Mexico City. The Mexican amateurs have only lost one international this year — against the Brazilian "A" side (1-2).

The Yugoslav War Ministry will now allow First Division players to appear for their clubs after their first six months of national service. In the past, players were unavailable for the entire duration of their two-year military training.

Limassol, the Cypriot champions, have agreed to play both first round matches of their European Cup tie against Real Madrid in Spain on September 18 and 26 to attract bigger gates.

FIFA chose a panel of three referees — Lo Bello (Italy), Bakhrarov (USSR) and Zecevic (Yugoslavia) — for the return match of the Intercontinental Cup final at Old Trafford, Manchester, on October 16. The first match, in Buenos Aires, on September 25, will be refereed by a trio of Brazilian referees.

The World Cup elimination match between Belgium and Yugoslavia will be played in Belgrade on September 25.

Flamengo of Rio (Brazil) won the annual Mohammed V Tournament in Casablanca last week by defeating Racing Buenos Aires 3-2 in the final. For third place St. Etienne (France) beat F.A.R. (Morocco) 2-0.

A poll in the SCOTSMAN to find Scotland's most popular players produced the following results: 1 Craig (Rangers), 2 Gemmel (Celtic), 3 Lennox (Celtic), 4 Smith (Rangers), 5 Johnstone (Celtic).

The French national team played a 1-1 draw with Bayern Munchen of West Germany in a practice match at St. Etienne last week.

Austria and Switzerland, who have cancelled their international matches against Hungary and Poland respectively because of the Czech crisis, will meet instead on September 22 in Berne.

The South American Football Confederation wants to abolish the 1969 South American Champions' Cup to concentrate on preparations for the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico.

The former captain of the Argentinian national team, Nestor Rossi, one of Latin America's all-time great soccer players, may coach Spanish First Division club, Malaga, this season. Rossi is currently coaching Haracan of Buenos Aires.

The new club of the once irresistible Garrincha, the Brazilian winger, is C. A. Junior, of Barranquilla, Colombia.

Harry Bild, the Swedish forward who returned home after a spell in Holland and Switzerland, has been reintegrated into the Swedish national team and will play against France in a World Cup qualifying match later this year. Bild now plays for Dester, in the Second Division.

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SCOREBOARD

AUSTRIA: Eisenstadt v. noord v. AZ '67 2-0; MVV Sturm Graz 0-1; Wacker v. PSV 2-4; NEC v. DWS 2-1; Twente v. ADO 2-0.

HUNGARY: Pecs v. Ferencvaros 0-1; Diosgyor v. Vassas 2-2; Honved v. Gyor 2-2; MTK v. Szeged 1-0; Tabanya v. Ujpest 1-1; Csepel v. Egyetemes 2-1; Videoton v. Dunaujvaros 1-0; Salgotarjan v. Szombathely 1-0.

BULGARIA: Slavia v. Dobroudja 3-2; Spartak Sofia v. Marek 0-0; Beroe v. Levski 1-1; Spartak Plevne v. Cernomore 2-2; Trakia v. Donav 3-0; Bourgas v. Miners 4-0; Botev Vratza v. Lokomotiva Plovdiv 3-3; Lokomotiva Sofia v. CSKA 2-2.

Table: Rapid, FK Austria 5; Sturm Graz, Admira, Wacker, Eisenstadt 4.

EAST GERMANY: Wismut v. Chemie Leipzig 1-0; Halle v. Karlmarxstadt 2-0; Lokomotive Leipzig v. Rostock 1-1; Vorwarts Berlin v. Zwickau 4-0; Magdeburg v. Dynamo Berlin 4-1; Jena v. Erfurt 1-0; Union Berlin v. Riesa 2-0.

Table: Wismut 6; Vorwarts, Magdeburg, Halle, Union Berlin, Chemie Leipzig, Jena 4.

FRANCE: Lyon v. Nimes 1-1; Bastia v. Strasbourg 2-1; Metz v. Rouen 7-3; Bordeaux v. Valenciennes 1-0; Sochaux v. Ajaccio 0-1; Sedan v. St. Etienne 0-0; Nantes v. Marseille 2-1; Red Star v. Nice 0-2.

HOLLAND: Ajax v. Fortuna 2-0; DOS v. Sparta 0-3; Volendam v. NAC 0-0; Holland Sport v. Go Ahead 1-0; Telstar v. GVAV 1-1; Feyenoord v. AZ '67 2-0; MVV Sturm Graz 0-1; Wacker v. PSV 2-4; NEC v. DWS 2-1; Twente v. ADO 2-0.

Table: Rapid, FK Austria 5; Sturm Graz, Admira, Wacker, Eisenstadt 4.

Table: Wismut 6; Vorwarts, Magdeburg, Halle, Union Berlin, Chemie Leipzig, Jena 4.

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MELBOURNE PAGE... MELBOURNE PAGE... MELBOURNE

Dockerty Cup may be a money-spinner

— From BOB LOW —

The 1968 Dockerty Cup proper which embraces all 12 State League clubs plus four qualifiers from the Metropolitan and Country leagues kicks off this weekend with the 16 teams fighting for a place in the second round.

The eight games scheduled for this weekend will be played at two grounds, Olympic Park and Middle Park, on both Saturday and Sunday.

This season's tournament could well turn out to be a real money-spinner.

With the league well and truly wrapped up at both ends of the ladder, fans are likely to turn out in force to see a well organised competition after the bitter and apathetic appeal of the current Australia Cup tourney.

In recent years, however, there have been strong suggestions from some quarters that the competition as far as the State League clubs are concerned has outlived its appeal and usefulness.

It has been suggested in some quarters that a merger should take place with the Ampol Cup or that the Dockerty Cup should be an exclusive competition for the Metropolitan and Country sides only.

On the other hand, a strong faction of the top clubs are determined to preserve its existence.

The cup was donated way back in 1907 by the late Harry J. Dockerty, a tailor who had migrated from Scotland, was the founder of soccer in Victoria and who gave 54 years' service to the game before his death a few years ago.

The Dockerty Cup was first played for in 1909, and, except for a four-year break from 1914 to 1918, has been competed for annually.

Hakoah have won the cup the greatest number of times since their first success in 1935.

The Middle Park side have chalked up six wins plus a dual share when they merged with Moreland in 1945 to take the trophy.

Slavia have the greatest number of wins since the State League was formed.

They won the trophy in both 1964 and 1965 and again in 1967 to make them the current holders.

Of the other State League clubs, George Cross have two wins with Wilhelmina, Juventus, Polonia and JUST one apiece.

New State League champions Croatia are looking for their first success although they did manage to reach the final in 1964.

Only country side to win the Dockerty Cup was Wonthaggi Magpies in 1931 and one or two of their winning side on that occasion are alive and well in Melbourne. Only recently soccer was revived in Wonthaggi.

Over the years there have been few real shocks in the competition although 1967 did prove an exception.

In the first main round little Sunshine City, a mediocre Metropolitan League side, caused a major sensation when they beat Melbourne who had just been crowned State League champions, 1-0.

To show this was no fluke Sunshine City continued their giant-killing act in the quarterfinals by defeating Alexander 2-1.

The "sunshine" disappeared, however, in the semifinals when Slavia crushed them into the ground without a great deal of effort to win 3-0.

Is there another "Sunshine" around this year? Time will tell.

Dockerty Cup winners since 1958: Wilhelmina, 1959: Slavia.

George Cross, 1960: Juventus, 1961: Polonia, 1962: George Cross, 1963: JUST, 1964: Slavia, 1965: Slavia, 1966: Hakoah, 1967: Slavia.

These are the matches set down for the weekend:

POLONIA v. DANDENONG: While Polonia have been struggling for weeks after a great run of success, they should hammer home their superiority over First Division Dandenong who were pipped by Box Hill for promotion to the State League.

CROATIA v. COBURG: Croatia are in no danger here against the former Second Division side who go up to the First Division next year. Coburg have beaten three teams of higher class to reach this stage but against the State League champions their biggest worry will be to keep the score to reasonable proportions.

WILHELMINA v. ALEXANDER: Wilhelmina play well at Middle Park although here they will find the relegated Alexander in a more relaxed mood and may finish on a more profitable note than in recent weeks.

HAKOAH v. JUST: Hakoah have gone to pieces in recent weeks and only brilliant goal-keeping by Henderson has saved them from heavier defeats. JUST are no wonders either although they have more striking power than Hakoah. And this could swing the game their way.

JUVENTUS v. SUNSHINE: Juventus cannot afford to take Sunshine, shock side of last year, cheaply. If they do, a sensational ending is not outside the bounds of possibility.

GEORGE CROSS v. MELBOURNE: George Cross should surely advance to the quarterfinals. For Melbourne are so poor and playing so badly that a quick exit from the competition is solidly forecast.

LIONS v. HAMLYN RANGERS or AUSTRIA: Irrespective of which team they meet, Lions should win in a canter. As one of the hardest sides to beat in the State League, they should underline the difference in no uncertain manner.

SM HELLAS v. SLAVIA: The top game of the round and likely to be the toughest. Both Hellas and Slavia have regained their scoring touch. The dismal cup record of Hellas in the past compares poorly with the great success of Slavia in trophy-collecting.

COOK'S GRAND TOUR OF CLUBS

As I forecast last week in these columns, the protest and appeal by South Melbourne Hellas over the eligibility of players Cliss and Fernandez of Melbourne on the grounds that they were signed after July 31 was dismissed.

Although the VSF Executive had in 1966 made recommendations regarding a July 31 deadline for interstate transfers, the State Council, supreme authority in Victorian soccer, never ratified the recommendation.

It would be interesting to know in view of what has happened in this instance if the local transfer deadline, which is June 30, has ever been officially approved by the "rule-makers" of the VSF.

The chaotic state which exists in the signing of local, interstate and overseas players after deadlines which are dubious, imaginary and concocted leave elephant-size loopholes in this structure.

Two players, both left-wingers, are returning to the U.K. this week. They are Joe Keenan the former Hakoah, Croatia and Cumberland player who has been with George Cross and Alex Purdie of Hakoah. Well informed reports suggest that the next player to head for home will be Johnny Anderson, the former Hellas, Victoria and Australian forward, also with Hakoah.

Nick McCallum has finished up as the top State League scorer in 1968 with 16 goals to his credit.

Tommy McColl of Juventus who returned without the club's permission to South Australia two months ago, is coming back to Melbourne this week. It is expected that Juventus will lift the suspension they have on McColl providing they get certain assurances from the player.

One of the toughest players in State League soccer a few years ago was Alex Glennie who served Slavia so faithfully for so long and was easily identified on the field through the skull cap he wore.

Now another Glennie has made his mark in State League soccer.

His brother George who has played fully three years with Alexander without missing a game at fullback is regarded by leading Melbourne critics as the most consistent performer with the Greek side this season.

JUST who escaped the hatchet and relegation owe a lot to brilliant inside-forward Cora Buljivic whom they imported with another two players from Yugoslavia about two months ago.

The big fellow has scored a quarter of their goals for the season.

Valuable goals indeed.

South Melbourne Hellas, so long so predominantly Greek, now have five Englishmen as first team players.

They are David High at present out of action with a double fracture of the ankle, David Kelly who, like High, is a fullback and also an ex-Slavia player, Paul Deeming, a young inside-forward from Stevenage Town, Dick Stephens, a goalie who was on Aston Villa's books, and latest recruit David Gorrie, a forward from Runcorn United.

They could almost add another to that list by including forward Ernie Ackersley who, though he was born in Scotland, had lived almost all his life in England and speaks with a broad Lancashire dialect.

Wally Lowrie, a goalkeeper who recently arrived for Slavia played only a few months with Stirling Albion before answering a hurried call from the Port Melbourne club to come to Australia.

Before that he was playing for South of Scotland side, Royal Albert Hawick.

Now that Claude Fogale has re-established himself as a regular at centre-half with Juventus, the Italian side can almost claim half a team of local products.

Others who have made the grade via their juniors are Dario Epifano, Rino Ballerini, Pasquale Della Rocca and Dino Di Marchi.

Billy Cook's absence from Slavia for the past six or seven weeks has been unassessable.

Although Tommy Randles, a first class wing half, has filled the number five berth with credit, the former Stoke City player's ability as an adventurous type on the flank suits both himself and the team much better.

Cook's great positional play and his ability to read the game have been distinct factors in the rock-steady play of the Slavia defence in the past.

The best way of making an inside-forward seems to be to play him at fullback for some time, then draft him into the centre-half berth for a spell before finally moving him up front.

At least this has paid off with Polonia's Eddie Marmur.

— Bob Low

Warren's chance

David Gorrie, the most recent arrival for South Melbourne Hellas and a powerfully built forward who could cause a big stir in Victorian soccer once he gets tuned up, would not comment on how John Warren might fare with English Third Division side Stockport County. Why should he, you may say?

Well, Gorrie played with Stockport County after being released by Everton and naturally is able to form worthwhile impressions on the ability and limitations of the English side.

But as he has never seen Warren in action he would not pass comment on the player.

Brian Adlam the Croatia winger, however, who has had considerable experience in England with Bristol Rovers, Shrewsbury Town and Birmingham feels certain having seen Warren in action many times, that the St. George-Budapest forward can do quite well in the Third Division — without much further prospects.

UNION MOVE

Since the recent reformation of the Victorian Players' Association, inactivity seemed to be the theme as secretary Jeff Davies went on a world trip.

Now Davies has returned to Melbourne after meetings with players and officials in Hong Kong, America and England and some radical changes in the set-up here are expected at an early meeting of the Association.

In England and mainly in his hometown, Manchester, the players' scribe had long talks with English Players' Association secretary, Cliff Lloyd who was surprised that State League players had no real contracts, were virtually tied for life with their present type of registration and that unattached migrant players arriving in Australia had no chance of having trial periods for clubs before deciding whom they would join.

While in Manchester, he also had lengthy talks with Manchester City manager, Joe Mercer, and assistant manager and coach Malcolm Allison.

RESULTS

DOCKERTY CUP

St. Albans v. Altona 1-0; Keilor City v. Sunshine City 1-2; Coburg v. St. Albans 1-0; Dandenong City v. Ferntree Gully 5-0 (after extra time); Hamlyn Rangers v. Elwood Austria 1-1 (after extra time); Elwood Austria and Hamlyn Rangers replay their tie this Saturday with the winners meeting Lions on Sunday.

STATE LEAGUE

Croatia 3 (J. McKay, McIntyre, Vojtek) v. Juventus 1 (Di Marchi); Polonia 1 (Swo-boda) v. JUST 1 (Zoraja); SM-Hellas 4 (Damanaikos, Kamboropolous, Pygrolis, Gorrie) v. Hakoah 0; Slavia 5 (McDaid own goal, Reid 2, Butler, Randles penalty) v. Melbourne-HSC 1 (Sefton); Wilhelmina 1 (O'Toole) v. George Cross 0; Alexander 1 (Kulyk own goal) v. Lions 1 (Rosweir).

FINAL VICTORIAN TABLE

Croatia	15	3	4	42	19	33
Polonia	9	8	5	29	25	26
Hellas	9	7	6	38	29	25
Hakoah	9	6	7	30	27	24
Lions	8	8	6	23	24	24
George Cross	8	6	8	36	28	22
Wilhelmina	8	6	8	26	24	22
Slavia	7	5	10	33	31	19
Juventus	5	9	8	28	40	19
Melbourne	6	6	10	25	38	18
JUST	5	6	11	31	41	16
Alexander	5	6	11	28	43	16

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● The telephone number of our Melbourne editor, Bob Low is 329-7582 — after 6 p.m.

SUTHERLAND TIPPED AGAIN IN SECOND DIVISION ROUND—ROBIN

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

The big gamble in staging the Second Division round-robin tournament away from the City proved a resounding success and efforts by the clubs to bring soccer to the districts should get a big boost.

A crowd of 1,120 turned out in brilliant sunshine at Macarthur Park to watch the four top teams play the first round as against only 150 spectators last year at Marks Field.

Sutherland v. Bankstown 2-1

The early clash between Sutherland and Bankstown was easily the best fixture of the afternoon and provided exciting and entertaining football and was only resolved after extra-time.

Both teams played constructive football, and while Sutherland held a slight edge in the first half, Bankstown improved after the interval to make the 1-1 result at the end of 90 minutes both fair and justified.

Bankstown took the lead in the 78th minute when Peter Clarke converted a perfect cross from fullback Col Fitzgerald after he had run the ball solo the full length of the ground.

Sutherland, who missed so many scoring chances earlier, levelled the score with only one minute to go when Phil Martin found the net with a well directed lob in the left-hand corner of

the net from about 40 yards out.

The deciding goal came only three minutes into extra time when Sam Cucitti smashed a superb placement giving Wilkes no chance to save.

Bankstown: Wilkes; Fitzgerald, Sheldrick; Brack, Hinkman, Attwood; Madden, Clarke, Bamforth, Goose (Tansley), White.

Sutherland: Root; Patterson, Shuttlewood; Shrubsole, Turner, Griffiths; O'Brian, Davidson, Martin, Cacciola, Cucitti.

Auburn v. Wests 1-0

This match failed to fulfill its promise, produced very few thrills and developed into a negative battle.

Auburn took the initiative right from the start and after only eight minutes Robby McKnight found the net to score what proved to be the deciding goal of the match.

Wests were unlucky not to equalise soon after when Holmes hit the crossbar and Brommett's outstretched fingers could only push the ball for a corner.

Despite a great all-round performance, Johnny Bijkker, Wests' centre-half, twice fumbled golden chances to notch the equaliser, missing a penalty into the bargain.

Auburn: Brommett; Waite, Haggitt; Entwistle, Thompson, Keen; Allan, O'Neill (Maas), Moffatt, McKnight, Vincent. Wests: Murren; Bastion, Apostolidis, Holmes, Bijkker, Di Santi, Cassidy, Harrison, Woods, Randall, Pont.

THIS WEEKEND

The early game on Saturday between Western Suburbs and Sutherland should provide plenty of entertainment as both sides play a contrasting type of soccer.

Wests may field a reshuffled team and will strive for a win to justify their second place on the competition table while Sutherland are expected to be reinforced with the inclusion of centre-half John O'Reilly.

On present form, Sutherland should topple Wests, but could again be forced into extra-time.

Auburn, lucky to scrape in against Wests, will have a fight to down Bankstown in the late match.

Alex Smith, Auburn's right back, may return to the side after a bout of 'flu and will strengthen his defence and it would not surprise if coach Nowacki decided to play in the forwards to give the attack his much-needed experience.

Bankstown will include goalie Hans Friedl in their line-up and their forwards may be reshuffled to make room for John Jamieson.

This match should develop into a hard-fought struggle and is sure to provide all the thrills and spills of a needle game with Bankstown to win narrowly.

NSW UNDEFEATED IN NEW CALEDONIA

The NSW under-18 team returned from New Caledonia last weekend with a win and a draw under its belt from two matches in Noumea.

Because of the visit to New Caledonia of the Fijian national team, the youngsters' tour was somewhat curtailed and the expected third match in the French island did not eventuate.

In Noumea, NSW beat the representative New Caledonian XI 3-2 before holding the same opponents to a 1-1 draw.

Tour manager Frank Parsons was delighted with his team.

"Most of the boys came through with flying colors and every player will benefit from the tour. It was quite an experience," he said.

Parsons rated captain Ray Gardiner, of Hakoah, and St. George's Frank McCue as the stars of the NSW squad.

"Gardiner played a true captain's role and held the team together splendidly on and off the field, and McCue's artistry enthralled the volatile New Caledonian crowds," he said.

Loveday, Edwards and Tuckerman were also outstanding in defence, while Piggott was the pick of the forwards with McCue.

In both matches, according to Parsons, NSW had the better of play, but failed to press home their superiority by missing easy chances.

The New Caledonians relied mainly on breakaways and were better suited by the conditions, especially in the second match, which was played as a curtain-raiser to the New Caledonian v. Fiji international (5-2 for New Caledonia) in pouring rain.

This match was marred by rough play which re-

sulted in several injuries to NSW players.

NSW's line-up in their opening match was: Gee; Loveday, Yaeger; Edwards, Tuckerman, Gardiner; McCue, Dupont, Piggott, Howard, Shepherd.

Shepherd (2) and Dupont were the scorers. The team in the second game was: Gee; Loveday, Gardiner; Hutchison, Edwards, McCue; Yaeger, Piggott, Tuckerman, Howard, Kovacic, and NSW's goal was netted by McCue.

"AMBASSADORS"

Frank Parsons and coach Harry Hill thought their young charges proved excellent "ambassadors" for Australia, behaving impeccably on and off the field.

Parsons is also convinced there should be more soccer exchanges between Australia and New Caledonia.

He was most impressed with the standard of the full New Caledonian team against Fiji.

"They could beat our national team," he said.

The New Caledonians have been invited to tour Australia, and NSW in particular, next year, at both senior and junior level.

— Lou Gautier

Juventus' A.C.T. win

Juventus won the Canberra Championship last Sunday.

The A.C.T.'s glamor team beat Croatia-Deakin 3-1 in a replay of the Grand Final.

ADELAIDE NEWS

Polonia a big danger in Cup

— From ALLAN CRISP —

SA league champions, WA Hellas, will oppose runners-up, Polonia, in a key Federation Cup quarterfinal at Croydon Park tomorrow, (Saturday, September 14.)

Polonia loom as a giant obstacle likely to shatter Hellas' hopes of winning the Ampol Cup, league and Federation Cup treble.

Hellas scored a convincing 3-0 win over Polonia in the first league round, but Polonia held the new champions to a 1-1 draw when they met on August 17.

Hellas netted a grand tally of 57 league goals compared to Polonia's 30, but Polonia conceded one goal less than Hellas.

Polonia's uncompromising defence led by Roger Romanowicz, Eugene Nowak, Loukas Kouzapa, Rick Hamence and Cyril Heppenstall, should ensure that Hellas will have to work hard to score a winning tally.

The excellent form of "reserve" stopper, Alex Zurawski, who was recently invited to train with the State squad, poses a further problem for Hellas.

Hellas, however, are my choice to advance to the semifinals.

Tom Forde will have benefited from a fortnight's spell and will be fully fit to guide his charges through this tough encounter.

Billy Birch, Nick Pantelis and Alex Byrne, will be marked men, but Hellas possess additional talent that is always a danger as they mount their counter-attacks.

Sole Second Division survivor, Burnside-Budapest, must be rated an even money bet against depleted Beograd in the other quarterfinal at Woodville West.

Beograd appeared certain to qualify for the Australia Cup play-offs until injuries crippled Rab Jones, Mitia Marusic, Ivan Batisc and Dimce Temelkowski.

Jones (knee) and Marusic (broken collar-bone) will miss tomorrow's game, but Batisc and Temelkowski, may recover in time to play.

Several of Beograd's and Budapest's bright youngsters have been recognised by the State selectors and the players will be out to enhance their

chances of gaining a berth in the SA squad.

Budapest, under coach, George Buttas, won the Second Division title comfortably and are eager to prove themselves against First Division opposition.

Peter Jaksa is an astute tactician, however, and I expect the Beograd coach to devise a successful plan that will carry his team through to meet Juventus in a semifinal.

LAST WEEK

Last Saturday's Federation Cup quarterfinal game between Lion and Austria was ruined by a spate of petty fouls.

Hacking, ankle tapping, tripping, pushing and holding was the order with good soccer minimal.

Referee Mick O'Malley must have gone close to suffering writer's cramp because he wrote down seven cautions during the game.

Lion centre half, John Catnach, flew over 300 miles to play, but lasted only 54 minutes before he was sent off for kicking an opponent.

Results: Federation Cup quarterfinals: Austria 1 (Peterson) v. USC Lion 0. Juventus 4 (Serafini 2, Herczeg, Zamprognio) v. Elizabeth City 1 (Wadlow, penalty).

S.A. PROGRAM

Federation Cup (quarterfinals at 2.30 p.m.): Polonia v. WA Hellas — Croydon Park; Beograd v. Burnside-Budapest — Woodville West Reserve, both on Sunday.

Woomera's big crowd

Two thousand people saw a match at Woomera (SA) in which the home team defeated Broken Hill 7-1.

Woomera, with a population of 5,000, supports four senior and 12 junior teams.

SYDNEY PROGRAM

THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

SECOND DIVISION PLAY-OFFS

Western Suburbs v. Sutherland — Macarthur Park, 1.15 p.m.
Auburn v. Bankstown — Macarthur Park, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.45 a.m. — Third Grade semifinal: Western Suburbs v. Sutherland.)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

FIRST DIVISION PLAY-OFFS

APIA v. Hakoah — Sportsground, 1.15 p.m.
Pan Hellenic v. Prague — Sportsground, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.45 a.m. — Third Grade semifinal: Prague v. Croatia.)

NEXT WEEKEND

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Second Division Play-Offs

Western Suburbs v. Bankstown — Macarthur Park, 1.15 p.m.
Auburn v. Sutherland — Macarthur Park, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.35 a.m.: Western Suburbs v. Sutherland — Second Grade semifinal.)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

First Division Play-Offs

Hakoah v. Prague — Sportsground, 1.15 p.m.
Pan Hellenic v. APIA — Sportsground, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.35 a.m.: Prague v. South Coast — Second Grade semifinal.)

Australian title to Newcastle

Newcastle caused an upset by winning the Australian under-16 championship in Melbourne last week.

The Northern NSW lads defeated the fancied Sydney juniors 2-1 in the final at Olympic Park in a curtain-raiser to the Slavia v. Melbourne-HSC State League tie.

This is the second time the title goes to Newcastle as they also won it in Brisbane in 1966.

The favored Sydney youngsters did not perform as well as expected as they were also beaten in their first preliminary round-robin match by Victoria last Tuesday week 1-2.

Victoria won group "A" with six points, followed by NSW with four points and Western Australia with two points.

Queensland did not turn up and their three group opponents each received two points for the forfeit.

South Australia, as expected, took out Group "B" with a 100 per cent record, ahead of Newcastle, whom they defeated 2-0.

South Australia, however, were hard pressed to beat the A.C.T., who performed much better than anticipated, 2-1.

The round-robin results: Monday 2-9: Victoria v. WA 1-0, SA v. ACT 2-1, NNSW v. Tasmania 3-0; Tuesday 3-9: ACT v. Tasmania 2-0, NSW v. Victoria

1-2, SA v. NNSW 2-0; Wednesday 4-9: NNSW v. A.C.T. 6-0, NSW v. WA 6-1, SA v. Tasmania 3-0.

Placings in Group "A": Victoria 6, NSW 4, WA 2; in Group "B": SA 6, NNSW 4, A.C.T. 2, Tasmania 0.

In the semifinals NSW beat South Australia 4-2 in the best match of the series and Northern NSW downed Victoria 1-0.

"SHAMBLES"

John Holland, our Canberra correspondent who was in Melbourne as the A.C.T.'s team manager, reports that the series was marred by poor organisation.

"The NSW, Newcastle and Western Australian teams," he writes, "vacated their sub-standard hotel on the first night after a series of hair-raising incidents."

"The other teams moved out after two nights though Victorian Federation officials failed to provide alternative arrangements."

Holland also complained about the state of most pitches and the absence of linesmen at preliminary matches.

"The entire organisation was a shambles," was his verdict of the 1968 Youth Carnival.



FLOTTA LALLO